

was a 1946 graduate of the Hotchkiss School in Lakeville, Conn., and a 1950 economics graduate of Yale University. He received a master's degree in business administration from Harvard University. He was a 1958 graduate of Temple University's law school, attending classes at night while a foreman on a steel assembly line during the day. He served in the Marine Corps during the Korean War and was aide-de-camp to Lt. Gen. Lewis B. "Chesty" Puller. Years later, in Congress, Rep. Coughlin chaired the Capitol Hill Marines, a group of congressmen who had been in the Marine Corps. He was practicing law at a Philadelphia firm when he was elected to the Pennsylvania House of Representatives in 1964 and to the state Senate in 1966. He won his U.S. House seat in 1968, when Richard S. Schweiker (R) left to make a successful bid for the U.S. Senate.

A tall, slender man with a patrician air, Rep. Coughlin was known for wearing—and defending—bow ties. When a magazine writer said in the 1980s that men who wore bow ties were not to be trusted, Rep. Coughlin was quoted as saying, "I've never known one who wasn't trustworthy." His first wife, Helen Ford Swan Coughlin, died in the early 1950s. His marriage to Elizabeth Worrell Coughlin ended in divorce. Survivors include his wife of 21 years, Susan MacGregor Coughlin of Alexandria; a daughter from his first marriage, Lisa Coughlin Powell of Plymouth Meeting, Pa.; three children from his second marriage, Lynne Coughlin Samson of Wayne, Pa., Sara Coughlin Noon of Bel Air, Md., and R. Lawrence Coughlin III of Seattle; and five grandchildren.

#### SICKLE CELL DISEASE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SHUSTER). Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD. Mr. Speaker, I had the joy on Monday to visit one of the hospitals in my district, the Miller Children's Hospital located in Long Beach and within the Long Beach Memorial Hospital complex. What a joy it was, Mr. Speaker, to talk with the many children who had such hope and such enthusiasm even given the fact that they are sickle cell anemia children.

I was met, as I came into the hospital, by Kala, age 5. So much spirit, so vibrant, so eager to talk with me about the things that she does in school. I was absolutely pleased to see this youngster, who is really suffering from sickle cell anemia, to have such hope and such determination, something that we can all and should all emulate.

And then I went to the next ward and I saw Etan. Etan was with his mother and father, and he, too, is suffering from sickle cell anemia. I talked with Etan. He is an A student in school. His father and his mother hailed from Nigeria. He has to come in every so often for a blood transfusion.

I was so pleased to see these two young people, who are so vibrant, so much life, and yet their life can be taken in a moment's time if they are not given this type of blood that they have to have.

Then I went down the hallway and I saw another young guy by the name of

Chris. He was in the hospital, again having this blood transfusion, and he was with his father, his mother, and his brother Maurice. They are a family of 10. It was amazing to me how this family was so close-knit there, pulling for Chris to come through. He, too, had to have this blood transfusion, and he, too, had just a wealth of energy, as much as he could put out; and so much love, so much compassion, smiling all the time, not knowing exactly whether he will be with us next year or not.

These are children, Mr. Speaker, that have been afflicted with sickle cell disease. And we, as African Americans, know much too often about sickle cell. We know that sickle cell and that disease is a disease that affects a special protein inside of our red blood cells called hemoglobin. The red blood cell has an important job. They pick up oxygen from the lungs and take it to every part of the body.

We also recognize, Mr. Speaker, that sickle cell disease affects 3 in every 1,000 African American newborns. Although in the United States most cases occur among African Americans, this disease also affects people of Arabian, Greek, Maltese, Italian, Sardinian, Turkish, and of Indian ancestry. Affected children are at an increased risk of mortality or morbidity, especially in the first 3 years of life.

This is why, Mr. Speaker, the Miller Children's Hospital at Long Beach Memorial is such an outstanding one because it treats these kids. It has an absolutely state-of-the-art clinic that has helped in so many ways with our children gaining their strength and being able to get back up and go to school and to monitor them. They monitor them to make sure that when there is a need for them to come back in for a transfusion, they come back in.

Sickle cell disease is an inherited disease of the red blood cells, as I said before, which can cause attacks of pain, damage to vital organs, and risk of serious infections that can lead to early death. This is why, Mr. Speaker, for infants and young children with sickle cell disease they are especially vulnerable to severe bacterial infections such as those that cause meningitis and blood infection. Infections are the leading cause of death in children with sickle cell disease.

I cannot say enough about the testing and the great physicians and nurses that are helping our children who have sickle cell. So I call on all my fellow colleagues to join me in the fight to support this universal patient access and research for sickle cell disease.

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#### BUSH ADMINISTRATION DOWNGRADES ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SHUSTER). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2001, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr.

PALLONE) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, this evening I would like to highlight the negative aspects of the Bush administration's environmental record. I do not come to the floor lightly. I am not here because I particularly want to be critical of the President or this administration; but it has been upsetting to me, particularly because I think in the aftermath of the September 11, because the Nation and I personally have focused so much on defense and the war on terrorism and homeland security issues, many times when efforts were made by the administration to weaken environmental laws or change agency rules in ways that weaken environmental protection, it has been difficult to get the public to pay attention to those issues or to even get the media's attention to the fact that in many cases environmental regulations have been watered down or changed in a way that is not good for the environment.

I was hoping that was just a coincidence and it would not continue, but it has continued. There are reports which have come out, one of which I would like to go into in a little detail tonight, which shows that this administration continues to downgrade, if you will, environmental protection.

When the President came forth with his budget last Monday, there was another strong indication of his willingness to downgrade environmental concerns because of the level of funding proposed in his budget for some key environmental programs.

I do not think that anyone really expected when President Bush took office that this administration would be strong on environmental issues, but many times there was rhetoric that suggested maybe we were wrong and maybe there would be some heightened concern over the environment. But the fact of the matter is that the administration's actions are very much the opposite. They continue, whether by regulation or through their spending policies, to take action which I think ultimately hurts the environment.

Mr. Speaker, I want to start out this evening by going through briefly a report that was put out by the Natural Resources Defense Council, the NRDC on January 23, just a couple of weeks ago. Basically what they looked at was agency actions over the spectrum of the Nation's most important environmental programs, whether that be protecting air, water, forest, wildlife or public lands. The report is actually entitled "Rewriting the Rules: The Bush Administration's Unseen Assault on the Environment." It basically provides a review of agency action since September 11, and it shows very dramatically that there, basically, has been an intensification of efforts after September 11 to downgrade environmental protection.

I think it is unfortunate that this is the case because I believe most Americans feel that not only is the environment an important issue, but it is a